

**CITY OF ROCHESTER
COMMITTEE ON URBAN DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENT
2122 CAMPUS DR SE
ROCHESTER, MN 55904**

The Committee on Urban Design and Environment (CUDE) met at 11:30AM on Thursday, July 17, 2008 in Room 320 City Hall, Rochester, MN.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Judisch – Chair, Gail Eadie, Sandi Goslee, Marcia Marcoux, Kathryn Moe, Roger Nelson, Dave Petersen, Terry Spaeth, Pauline Walle, Jean Weathers-Lowin

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dick Abraham, Mark Engel, John Klopp, Mark Jasmin, Zach Thaler

OTHERS PRESENT: Kristi Jones

The meeting began at 11:35.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

New Member

CUDE's newest member, Jean Weathers-Lowin, introduced herself to the group. Ms. Weathers-Lowin was appointed to fill the spot vacated by Carol Jech,

CUDE Awards

Ms. Goslee informed the group that they have not sent out any postcards this year. She asked the group whether we'd have enough winners this year to even warrant an awards program. Mr. Petersen stated that the Heritage Preservation Committee will start holding annual awards ceremonies in May. He and Mr. Nelson mentioned some projects that are in the work. The group decided to put off the decision for a month with the stipulation that members bring award nominations to the August meeting.

Vice-Chair Election

Roger Nelson nominated himself, seconded by Gail Eadie. The vote was unanimous.

Budget

Ms. Goslee presented the proposed CUDE budget for 2009. Ms. Eadie made a motion to approve the budget proposal, seconded by Mr. Judisch. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

CUDE Mission

Ms. Marcoux stated that the Rochester Area Foundation has some projects coming up that CUDE may want to get involved in. We should contact Sean Allen to see if they'd like our assistance; Mr. Spaeth suggested we invite them to a meeting to discuss this idea.

Mr. Nelson suggested that growth patterns would be a good project for CUDE: RAF projects, Downtown Alliance's work, green space planning.

Mr. Petersen commented that how we function as an advocacy group is very important as it would bolster our impact or authority. Ideally, people would want to come to CUDE with project ideas because they respect our opinion.

Ms. Marcoux stated that the Second Street Corridor Project, Imagine Kutzky, Walkable Communities, and inner city development would be good projects for CUDE. She stated that it would help to have representation at City Council meetings, not just written commentary.

Ms. Moe commented that we need to have some sort of design guidelines to have an impact. Ms. Weathers-Lowin suggested that we promote the group to the Rochester Area Builders so they aren't so reluctant to come to us with their projects. Ms. Jones said that maybe CUDE just needs to reintroduce themselves to RAB so they understand our function better.

Mr. Nelson commented that perhaps our meetings should be more like working sessions. We need to develop a set of design guidelines that are the only things we evaluate in a project. Mr. Petersen said we could come up with these guidelines.

Ms. Goslee suggested that CUDE be instrumental in revising the incentive development standards in the City's zoning ordinance.

Mr. Nelson suggested we categorize the things we do: design guidelines to review development, planning function, advocacy function (awards, etc.). In addition, Mr. Petersen said we need to work on our credibility and how we're perceived by the community. How can we improve our visibility?

NEW BUSINESS

Sustainability Symposium

Ms. Goslee described the progress made on Think Green, a sustainability fair to be held on October 18th in conjunction with the Rochester Women's Fall Expo. The fair will consist of workshops, speakers, children's activities, booths and vendors. Ms. Goslee asked the group if they would like to help sponsor the event since its goals are tied to those of CUDE and we would not be doing any of our own educational seminars this year. Mr. Nelson made a motion to allocate up to \$500 of our educational budget to this project, Ms. Walle seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Adjourn – 1:00 PM

Next meeting will be August 21st, 11:30AM.